

Appl. No. 10/517,142  
Amendment dated April 3, 2008  
Reply to Office Action of March 17, 2008

## **REMARKS**

The March 17, 2008 restriction requirement holds that this application contains claims directed to six patentably distinct Species. More specifically, Applicants are required to elect one of the following Species for prosecution on the merits under 35 U.S.C. §121:

- Species I – Figure 2 (claims 1, 2, 4 and 6);
- Species II – Figure 6 (claims 1, 2, 3 and 6);
- Species II – Figure 7 (claims 1, 2 and 6);
- Species IV – Figure 8 (claims 1, 2, 5 and 6);
- Species V – Figure 9 (claims 8 and 9); or
- Species VI – Figure 10 (claims 1, 2, 4, 6 and 7).

In response, Applicants hereby elect Species I *without traverse*. Applicants believe claims 1, 2, 4 and 6 read on the elected Species I illustrated in Figure 2, as indicated in the March 17, 2008 Restriction Requirement. Thus, claims 3, 5 and 7-9 can be withdrawn from consideration as being directed to non-elected embodiments. However, Applicants respectfully request that these non-elected claims be considered and rejoined in this application upon allowance of a generic and/or linking claim in accordance with U.S. patent practice, if appropriate.

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Prompt examination on the merits is respectfully requested. If there are any questions regarding this application, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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